



**Sheila Dixon**

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## **Baltimore Wins HGTV's *Change the World, Start at Home* Contest**

*Baltimore's Pen Lucy and Waverly neighborhoods will commence much-needed revitalization projects in April*

Baltimore, MD (January 3, 2008) –Home and Garden Television (HGTV) announced this week that Baltimore is one of four cities selected by the national voting public to receive a community revitalization courtesy of HGTV, Rebuilding Together, The National Trust for Historic Preservation and The Natural Resources Defense Council.

The contest required cities to submit revitalization projects in three categories: a community home, an educational facility and a shared open space. Voting was open nationwide on HGTV's web site from November 8 through December 21, and the cities with the top four vote totals, along with New Orleans, were selected as winners.

Baltimore's winning projects include the revitalization of the home of a retired grandmother raising her grandchildren in Pen Lucy, as well as the beautification of vacant lots in the neighborhood. The contest will also enable Baltimore to complete renovations and handicap accessibility improvements to the Community Mediation Program, a non-profit organization in the Waverly neighborhood.

"We certainly recognize here in Baltimore how precious and unique our neighborhoods are, and I am proud that the rest of the country feels the same way," said Mayor Dixon. "Through the perseverance of our residents and our community groups, we will continue to revitalize our neighborhoods block by block, street by street."

Rebuilding Together Baltimore will complete the projects in April 2008 with the help of volunteers from the community. Those interested in volunteering should call 410-889-2710 or e-mail [info@RTBaltimore.org](mailto:info@RTBaltimore.org) for more information. Denver, Colorado, Washington, D.C., and Twin Cities, Minnesota were also chosen as contest winners.

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